

Message Text

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PAGE 01 WELLIN 00805 290520 Z

20/70

ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 NSF-04 L-03 IO-12 COA-02 ACDA-19

COME-00 INT-08 OST-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-09 NSAE-00

PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-12 PRS-01 CG-00 AF-10 ARA-11 EUR-25

NEA-10 GAC-01 INRE-00 /153 W
----- 049907

R 290030 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6467

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CORRECTED COPY FORM R N O N L Y, VICE 0793

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TPHY, OSCI, TGEN NZ SV

SUBJECT: NZ SUPPORT FOR U. S. ANTARCTIC PROGRAM

REF: STATE 057361

1. EMBASSY CONTACTED MFA TO EXPRESS CONCERN NOTED
PARA 2 REFTEL. MFA SPOKESMAN REPLIED THAT GNZ IS
STILL IN PROCESS OF CONSOLIDATING ITS POSITION ON
VARIOUS SUPPORT PROBLEMS RAISED BY U. S. IN STATE'S 11174.
GNZ IS ASSUMING TALKS SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 9 ARE TO DISCUSS
VARIOUS WAYS IN WHICH GNZ MAY ASSIST U. S. OPERATIONS
IN ANTARCTIC FOR 1973/1974. MEETING SCHEDULED FOR
EARLY NEXT WEEK BETWEEN VARIOUS GNZ DEPARTMENTS APPEARS
TO BE NECESSARY TO IRON OUT EXACTLY HOW FORTHCOMING
GNZ CAN BE IN FULFILLING U. S. REQUESTS. MFA SPOKESMAN
ADDED HE WILL ATTEMPT TO GIVE US SOME IDEA FOLLOWING
THESE MEETINGS OF HOW GNZ HOPES TO RESPOND TO U. S.
REQUESTS.

2. EMBASSY IS UNDER ASSUMPTION THAT DISCUSSIONS
SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 9 AT REQUEST OF U. S. ARE TO CONSIDER
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WITH GNZ OFFICIALS: (A) HOW GNZ MIGHT BEST CONTINUE TO PROVIDE SUPPORT TO U. S. ANTARCTIC PROGRAM WITHOUT UNDULY HINDERING ITS OTHER COMMITMENTS FOR C- 130' S AND MILITARY PERSONNEL AND (B) HOW GNZ CAN BEST PROVIDE OTHER SUPPORT TO PROGRAM, SUCH AS AIRCRAFT SERVICING, WEATHER AND COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES, ETC. GNZ ASSUMES BOTH THESE ITEMS WILL BE DISCUSSED AT APRIL 9 MEETING. (FYI: MFA SPOKESMAN NOTES THAT DSIR AND MFA ARE PUSHING DEFENSE TO PROVIDE AT LEAST SAME SUPPORT AS IN 1972/1973 SEASON, BUT DEFENSE MAY NOT HAVE SAME CAPABILITY. END FYI.)

3. EMBASSY FEELS GNZ WILL BE AS FORTHCOMING AS POSSIBLE AND DOES NOT BELIEVE SITUATION WARRANTS INCLUSION OF DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL IN DELEGATION.

4. PART OF PROBLEM MAY BE INABILITY OF DEFENSE TO MAKE DECISIONS WHILE THREE SENIOR OFFICIALS IN DEFENSE MINISTRY ARE OUT OF THE COUNTRY. SECRETARY OF DEFENSE ROBERTSON WILL ALSO BE OUT OF THE COUNTRY DURING PERIOD OF DISCUSSIONS WITH U. S. OFFICIALS.

DECON 12/31/75.
WOOD

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** ONLY

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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